INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY J.M. Razi DATE May 6, 1982

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FROM: Benghazi

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 259, November 26.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 259, REPEATED INFORMATION TRIPOLI UNNUMBERED

EMBTEL 258.

GOL, probably at King's insistence, has advanced date opening Parliament to November 30. Consequently, called on Prime Minister this morning to (1) hand him acknowledgment his note November 18; (2) say most improbable any reaction Washington before Parliament convenes; (3) caution him to refrain in speech from throne from reference to this development in manner that would give incorrect impression to Parliament and people of position Wheelus base in Libya and create difficulties for future Libyan-American collaboration with respect to base. After protracted exchange and argument over GOLS right to request renegotiation and to include such political developments in speech from throne (reported separately by despatch), Prime Minister read me from draft copy of Sunday's speech reference 1954 US-Libyan agreement which roughly translated as follows:

"It also pleases my government to state it intends to enter into negotiations with our friend, the Government of the United States, to amend the 1954 agreement and its supplement with a view to improving the economic situation."

I expressed regret that Kubar felt public reference this subject necessary before United States Government could have opportunity of reply; that, nevertheless, if mention there must be, factual kind of reference such as he had read out was less objectionable and I felt we could live with it although I had not heard from Washington.

British Ambassador, who saw Kubar immediately

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after my appointment last week, reports Kubar told him of his note to me on base agreement and explained it as involving no modification of substantive clauses of base agreement, but having reference only to financial conditions pertaining. He added, "you know how poor we are", referring to UK-Libyan agreement negotiations earlier this year.

JONES

HEK/PAR

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